Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 02764 151057Z ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W

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R 151000Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2758 INFO USIA WASHDC AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2764

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

STATE FOR CU/ARTS; USIA FOR IEU SLAWECKI; LONDON FOR RRU O'CONNOR; VIENNA FOR RPO PLON

EO 11652: NA TAGS: SCUL RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN CENTENNIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

REF: BUCHAREST 2144, BUCHAREST 1685

1. AMERICAN DESK OFFICER FOR THE COUNCIL FOR SOCIALIST CULTURE AND EDUCATION INFORMED EMBOFF TODAY ABOUT A PROPOSED MUSIC FESTIVAL IN CONNECTION WITH ROMANIA'S CENTENNIAL WHICH WOULD INVOLVE ONLY FOREIGN MUSICAL GROUPS. FESTIVAL WOULD BE HELD JUNE 12-19 IN BUCHAREST AND PROVINCIAL CITIES. COUNCIL SPOKESMAN EXTREMELY VAGUE ABOUT DETAILS CONCERNING FESTIVAL ORGANIZATION AND POSSIBLE PARTICIPANTS BUT REPORTED THAT GOR INTERESTED IN AMERICAN JAZZ OR COUNTRY/WESTERN GROUP. HE THOUGHT THAT ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS ALREADY CONTACTED DIRECTLY POSSIBLE PERFORMING GROUP BUT WAS UNCERTAIN STATUS OF THIS CONTACT. UPSHOT IS THAT COUNCIL WOULD LIKE OUR ASSISTANCE (FINANCIAL AND FACILITATIVE) IN ARRANGING FOR AMERICAN PERFORMING GROUP.

2. WHILE COUNCIL STRESSES THAT THIS EVENT WOULD BE BILLED AS LINCLASSIFIED

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CENTENNIAL-RELATED AND HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH RUMORED OFFERS FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF PERFORMANCES MADE BY OTHER COUNTRIES, AND DESPITE LACK OF HARD INFORMATION ON FESTIVAL'S DETAILS, POST CONSIDERS THIS TANGIBLE EVENT IN WHICH WE CAN LINK RECOGNITION OF CENTENNIAL WITH EARTHQUAKE RELIEF-TYPE PERFORMANCE. POST REQUESTS THAT DEPT CHECK WITH ROMANIAN EMBASSY TO DETERMINE EXTENT OF CONTACT WITH AMERICAN PERFORMERS IF SUCH CONTACT HAS BEEN MADE, WHETHER

PERFORMANCE FEASIBLE AND WHETHER PERFORMER MEETS CU/ARTS STANDARDS. THEN POST SUGGESTS THAT ALL POSSIBLE FACILITATIVE AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BE PROVIDED SINCE THIS WOULD FULFILL NEED STATED IN REFTELS. IF GROUP CAN COME POST WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ASSURE PROVINCIAL PERFORMANCE(S) IN ADDITION TO BUCHAREST AND WOULD SUGGEST TO COUNCIL THAT PERFORMANCE SHOULD SERVE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF NEEDS WITHOUT DIMINISHING FACT THAT THEY WERE HELD WITHIN CENTENNIAL FESTIVAL CONTEXT.

3. POST REQUESTS EARLY REPLY WITH ANY INFORMATION DEPT CAN FIND ON THIS MATTER. WE WILL PROVIDE ANY FURTHER DETAILS WE CAN LEARN AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE HERE.

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